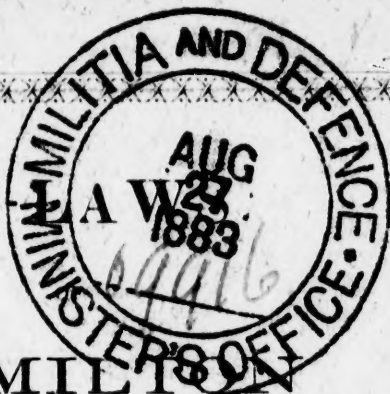




BY **AMINISTERS**
HAMILTON



Benefit L. O. L. No. 286



Adopted September 9th, 1875.

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BY-LAWS
OF
HAMILTON
BENEFIT L. O. L. NO. 286



Adopted Sept. 9th, 1875.



HAMILTON, ONT.
JUSTUS A. GRIFFIN, PRINTER, 47 KING WILLIAM ST.

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LOYAL ORANGE ASSOCIATION.

"Thou shalt teach men ordinances and laws, and shall
"show them the way wherein they must walk, and the
"work they must do; moreover, thou shalt provide out
"of all the people, able men, such as fear God—men of
"truth, hating covetousness, and place them to be rulers
"of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, and rulers of
"tens."—EXODUS, c. xviii, vs. 20, 21.

GENERAL DECLARATION.

At all times nothing can be more natural, and at this time nothing can be more reasonable, than that those who have common rights to protect, and common interests to defend, should act together and know each other. It is by division that the benevolent objects of true patriots are frustrated, and their best and noblest efforts for the public good defeated. In these distant but important appendages of our Great Empire, it must be obvious to every loyal and reflecting mind, that a union of intelligence, an increase of means, and a knowledge of each other, are essential.

The LOYAL ORANGE ASSOCIATION is formed by persons desirous of supporting, to the utmost of their power, the principle and practice of the CHRISTIAN RELIGION, to maintain the Laws and Constitution of the Country, *afford assistance to distressed members of the Order, and otherwise promote such laudable and benevolent purposes as may tend to the due ordering of Religion and Christian Charity*, and the supremacy of LAW, ORDER AND CONSTITUTIONAL FREEDOM.

Its members associate in honor of *King William III., Prince of Orange*, whose name they bear, and whose immortal memory they hold in reverence, tending, as he did, under Divine Providence, to the overthrow of the most oppressive bigotry, and the restoration of pure Religion and Liberty. They revere the memory of that Immortal Prince, not only as a Patriot, a Constitutional Monarch, and a Hero, but as a true Christian; and hope in the adoption of his name, to emulate his virtues, by maintaining RELIGION without persecution, or trenching upon the rights of any.

The Orange Society lays no claim to exclusive Loyalty, or exclusive Protestantism; but it admits no man within its pale whose principles are not Loyal, and whose creed is not Protestant.

Disclaiming an intolerant spirit, the Society demands as an indispensable qualification, without which the greatest and the wealthiest may seek admission in vain, that the candidate shall be deemed incapable of persecuting or injuring any one on account of his religious opinions; the duty of every Orangeman being to aid and defend all *loyal subjects*, of every religious persuasion, in the enjoyment of their constitutional rights.

The Rules of the Society are open not only to the members of the Association, but to the whole community ; there is no reserve, except the signs and symbols whereby Orangemen know each other ; and these mysteries are essential to the proper qualification of the Brotherhood, the recognition of the members, and the prevention of intrusion and imposture from strangers and enemies. The Association is general, not confined to any particular place, person or nation, but extends itself wherever a Loyal Protestant Briton is to be found, to the remotest corners of the globe, for the establishment of Protestant Faith and British Liberty to the latest ages of posterity. Its whole Institution is one neighborhood, within which every Orangeman is at home, in the farthest parts of the world ; and such is the mechanism of the Association, that while its operations are thus extended, its every movement is alike felt and answered in every part.

In short, the Orange Constitution, like a glorious moral luminary, is intended to pour its refulgence, not on one part only of the ample circumference of the British Dominions, but simultaneously on every portion, equally enlightening the whole periphery.

The Association in these Provinces can never be suppressed, but by means which would subvert the Constitution and annihilate the connection with the Mother Country.

In many quarters, where the true nature of the Orange Association is not properly known, its designs and objects have by some been misunderstood, and by others misrepresented. From the nature it bears—being connected in every one's

mind with the history of parties in Ireland, some are apt to suppose that its sphere is necessarily confined to that country; not reflecting that an instrument which has been chiefly used there to suppress Rebellion, repel Invasion, and secure Domestic Tranquility, may be found equally efficacious to loyal men of all countries, in protecting their lives, liberties and properties. The Society is constituted upon the broadest principles of National Freedom. *It takes its stand upon the glorious principles of the Revolution of 1688*; it lays its foundation in the field of British Liberty, it disdains the badge of Faction, and knows no emblem save "*The Altar and the Throne.*"

As the Prince of Orange was invited to England by a coalition of parties, who united from a common sense of their sacred duty, to preserve their Religion and Liberties, so the Orange Society, named after that Immortal Prince, invites a similar combination, and calls upon the sons of Britain to lay aside political feuds, and like their illustrious ancestors, who signed and sealed the great Covenant of Freedom, to sacrifice every private consideration, and establish a centralization of power to conserve the great blessing and privileges which we enjoy under the British connection, upon such a basis as will enable every limb and fibre to receive vitality and nourishment from the parent stem.

QUALIFICATIONS ESSENTIAL FOR A MEMBER.

He should have a sincere love and veneration for his Almighty Maker, productive of those lively and happy fruits—righteousness and obedience to His commands; a firm and steadfast faith in the Saviour of the world, convinced that He is the only Mediator between a sinful creature and an offended Creator. His disposition should be humane and compassionate, and his behaviour kind and conciliatory; he should be an enemy to savage brutality and every species of unchristian conduct; a lover of rational and improving society, faithfully regarding the Protestant Religion, and sincerely desirous of propagating its prospects (*i. e.*) charity and good will to all men. Zealous in promoting the honor, happiness and prosperity of his Queen and Country; heartily desirous of success in those pursuits, yet convinced that God alone can grant them. He should have a hatred of cursing and swearing, and of taking the name of God in vain; he should use all opportunities of discouraging them among his Brethren, and shun the society of all persons addicted to these shameful practices. Prudence should guide all his actions; temperance, sobriety and honesty direct his conduct; and the laudable objects of the Association be the motives of his endeavors.

BY - L A W S
OF
HAMILTON BENEFIT L. O. L.
No. 286.

ARTICLE 1.—This Lodge shall be named and styled as "Hamilton Benefit L. O. L. No. 286."

ART. 2.—This Lodge shall meet on the first Wednesday of every month, at the hour of 7:30 o'clock p. m.

ART. 3.—The initiation fee shall be three dollars, and the dues forty cents per month.

ART. 4.—Any Brother proposing a candidate for membership shall pay the sum of \$2 as proposition fee, and should the person proposed not appear for the space of three months, the sum paid on his behalf shall be forfeited.

ART. 5.—The funds of this Lodge shall be the *bona fide* property of the Brethren, and used and disposed of as the majority may determine.

ART. 6.—In case the funds of this Lodge should fall below fifty dollars, a levy sufficient to the emergency shall be taken off each member.

ART. 7.—When a Brother of this Lodge is taken sick, or incapacitated from work (otherwise than by immoral conduct), he shall be entitled to receive benefits for one year, if sickness is of that duration, but no longer, to the following amounts: \$3.00 a week for the first three months, \$2.50 for the next three months, and \$2.00 for the remainder of the year, making allowance in cases of extreme necessity. No member shall draw benefits for a shorter period than one week.

ART. 8.—So soon as a Brother is taken sick, or becomes disabled through accident, he shall, *within* one week, notify either the Master, Dep. Master, Rec. Secretary, or one of the Sick Committee. If the Brother fails in the above, it will disqualify him from receiving benefits for the said sickness.

ART. 9.—When a Brother shall be confined to his bed, by reason of sickness or accident, and requires attendance, it shall be the duty of the W. M., or, in his absence, the D. M., to see that the Secretary notifies two Brothers whose names shall appear first on the roll to watch with the Brother the first night, the two next Brothers on the roll for the night following, and so on, provided that the sick Brother be in the city of Hamilton.

ART. 10.—No Brother shall be called upon to watch twice until all Brothers who are in town shall have taken their turn at watching.

ART. 11.—Any Brother refusing or neglecting to take his turn at watching shall be assessed one dollar, and shall be disqualified from receiving benefits until such money be paid.

ART. 12.—Any Brother may furnish a substitute to watch in his place, and the Brother furnishing said proxy shall be entitled to receive credit for the same.

ART. 13.—In case of contagious or infectious disease it shall not be incumbent on members personally to visit the sick Brother, and should attendance be required, instead of calling upon brethren as above provided, a nurse shall be employed, to be paid from the funds of the Lodge.

ART. 14.—Benefits to be paid weekly as they accrue, the same to be paid out of the general fund.

ART. 15.—Any member three months' dues in arrears, shall not be entitled to benefits.

ART. 16.—Any Brother falling sick, or rendered unfit for work by reason of an accident, while in arrears, cannot make himself good on the books in order to draw benefits while such sickness remains.

ART. 17.—No member of this Lodge will be entitled to the services of the Physician who is six months in arrears.

ART. 18.—No Brother shall receive benefits from this Lodge for the space of three months from time of admission.

ART. 19.—No Brother, while under charge duly preferred against him, shall be entitled to any benefits while such charge is pending, but if afterwards acquitted, such Brother shall be entitled to

any benefit which, but for such charge, would then become payable to him while such charge was pending.

ART. 20.—If the Brother be a non-resident, or if his sickness or disability, as aforesaid, occurs at a distance from Hamilton, it shall be necessary that a statement or statements of his case, setting forth the nature of his sickness or disability, at the time of its commencement and duration, be transmitted to the W. M. of this Lodge, certified by the W. M. of the Lodge nearest to the place where he may be for the time resident or detained, and under the seal of such Lodge, or if he be not near to any Lodge, by a Justice of the Peace, Clergyman, or respectable Physician, and such Brother shall thereupon receive the benefit he is entitled to.

ART. 21.—Any member employing the services of any Physician, other than the one provided by the Lodge, the Lodge shall not, on any pretence, pay his account.

ART. 22.—Any member falling sick shall notify the Physician, and should he be entitled to sick benefits, the Physician shall sign an application weekly to the Treasurer, to entitle him to his weekly benefit. No benefit to be paid without the application be signed by the Physician.

ART. 23.—As soon as the Brother who is sick, or disabled from work, is able to follow his occupation, the Physician will not sign his application for benefits.

ART. 24.—Any Brother making use of improper means to obtain benefits from this Lodge shall, upon conviction thereof, be suspended or expelled as the Lodge may determine.

ART. 25.—Any member receiving sick benefits, and conducting himself improperly, shall forfeit all benefits during said sickness.

ART. 26.—Whenever any benefit shall accrue to the account of a Brother, payment shall be required therefrom of such monthly dues as may be chargeable to the close of the then current month.

ART. 27.—At the death of a Brother in good standing, the Lodge shall pay the sum of forty dollars towards defraying the funeral expenses.

ART. 28.—In case of the death of a Brother belonging to this Lodge, information thereof shall be communicated to the W. M., who shall direct the Rec. Secretary to call a meeting of the Lodge to attend the funeral unless the deceased Brother died of some infectious disease. Every Brother shall be fined one dollar, to be paid to the F. Sec., for not attending the funeral of a deceased Brother, unless satisfactory excuse can be given.

ART. 29.—When a Brother dies at a distance, the widow or nearest lawful relation shall bring or send to the W. M. of the Lodge, a proper certificate, signed and sealed by the W. M. of the Lodge nearest to the place where said Brother died, and under the seal of such Lodge, or if he be not near to any Lodge, by a Clergyman or Justice of the Peace in the town or place, or a respectable Physician, the receipt of which shall be

sufficient authority for the Lodge to pay the funeral donation, after ascertaining if he be good on the books.

ART. 30.—Any member having no relation near, the Lodge shall see him decently interred, and all expenses to be paid from the Lodge's funds. All dues deducted from benefits.

ART. 31.—In the event of a death, the Lodge shall pay one-half of the funeral donation to the widow, or the authorized representative, and if he be an unmarried Brother, to the nearest lawful relation, within twenty-four hours after decease. The other one-half of the donation shall be paid within twenty-four hours after interment, the undertaker being notified first that such payment is about to be made. Should the Lodge consider the claimant not a proper person to conduct the funeral, in such case the Lodge shall conduct the interment and keep a correct account of the expenses; the balance, if any, shall be disposed of as the Lodge may think fit.

ART. 32.—Should the family of such deceased Brother be in need of a protector or guardian, the Lodge shall, to the best of its power, protect and assist them, and endeavor to place them in such a position as to enable them to be useful to themselves and to society.

ART. 33.—There shall be a physician in connection with this Lodge, whose duty it shall be to examine all candidates, and report none favorable for admission except those who are physically sound, attend all sick members, and provide them with

proper and sufficient medicine during their affliction. He shall attend them at their residence, provided they are unable to walk to his office, and do his utmost to restore the health of the sick Brother ; and every declaration on the funds and recovery shall be signed by him.

ART. 34.—The Physician shall be appointed at the annual election of officers, and his salary shall be paid quarterly.

ART. 35.—The Physician shall be required to report to the Lodge quarterly of the members who have applied to him during the past three months for relief, stating their names, disease, length of time sick, and disabled from work. etc.

ART. 36.—It shall be the duty of the Financial Secretary to furnish the Physician, quarterly, with the names of members who are not six months in arrears. The Physician shall not be paid his per capita on members who are over that time in arrears.

ART. 37.—Any member coming to this Lodge with a certificate from another Lodge, in good standing, shall, immediately after his election with us, have the same standing in our Lodge as in the one he has left (except as to office) upon the payment of (\$1.00) one dollar.

ART. 38.—The Secretary and Treasurer shall balance accounts semi-annually, and report at the regular meetings in July and December.

ART. 39.—Any candidate unable to obtain the Physician's certificate of health may become a

member of this Lodge by paying the amounts as laid down in Article 3 of these By-Laws, but should he be taken sick, he will not be entitled to the services of the Lodge Physician or sick benefits. Should the member at any future time receive a certificate of health from the Lodge Physician, and informs the Lodge that he has such, he will be placed on the roll as a benefit member without any extra charge.

ART. 40.—Any officer or member of a Committee of this Lodge may be removed from his office or said Committee for being absent for three consecutive meetings, or for neglect of duty, or for immoral conduct.

ART. 41.—This Lodge shall have a Finance Committee, which shall consist of three members, and who shall be appointed by the W. M. at the commencement of the year, whose duty it shall be to audit all accounts against the Lodge, and sign the same and hand to the Treasurer for payment, and report to the Lodge the true state of the finances on the next meeting after their appointment, and to examine the books and papers of the R. Sec., F. Sec., and Treas., and report thereon to the Lodge semi-annually.

ART. 42.—The Rec. Secretary shall, in all cases, act as Secretary to the Standing Committee; and it is enjoined that he be present at all meetings of said Committee.

ART. 43.—The Financial Secretary shall carefully register the names and residences of all members of the Lodge in a book set apart for that

purpose, that no time may be lost in tendering our sick and disabled brethren timely assistance, in their time of need ; and should any member remove to a new residence, he shall give notice to the Fin. Sec. at the first regular meeting of the Lodge after said removal.

ART. 44.—There shall be three Trustees of this Lodge, composed of the W. M., D. M. and Rec. Sec. elect. The duties of the Trustees shall be to see that all moneys over (\$50) fifty dollars of the Lodge funds are deposited in a Bank chosen by the Lodge, and that all deposits in said Bank are made in the name of "Hamilton Benefit L. O. L. No. 286." No moneys to be withdrawn from deposit in Bank unless the order or cheque be signed by a majority of the Trustees."

ART. 45.—No officer shall be permitted to withdraw from this Lodge during his continuance in office.

ART. 46.—No subject of a sectarian or political nature shall be introduced before the Lodge.

ART. 47.—Whenever it may become known that any Brother of this Lodge has been reduced to a state of pecuniary distress by any sudden and unlooked for dispensation, his case shall be referred to a Special Committee of three Brothers, whose duty it shall be to examine into the same, and report to the Lodge, whether any, and what sum, in their opinion, should be granted for his relief.

ART. 48.—In the event of any cases arising, where no Article bears particularly or directly upon the point, the W. M. shall be empowered to

settle all such cases in accordance with the spirit and object of the Society.

ART. 49. At meetings of emergency, to attend funerals, no regalia shall be worn ; but the brethren shall wear a crape band upon the left arm, tied with orange ribbon, and the customary piece of orange ribbon on the left breast, dark clothes and white gloves.

ART. 50. That on the 12th of July, or any public procession, no member of the Lodge shall be allowed in the ranks of the Lodge, except excused by a two-third vote of the members present at a regular meeting, if not properly attired in the following manner:—Dark clothes, white gloves, and the regalia as provided for in the Grand Lodge Constitution ; private members to wear sashes, and officers collarettes. The D. of C. of the Lodge shall have the power of keeping order in the ranks ; and shall report to the Lodge, at its next session after the procession, the names of all Brothers who misconducted themselves in the ranks.

ART. 51.—All Rules of Order and Orders of Business shall be as binding on the members as the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Lodge, of which this forms part.

ART. 52.—These By-laws shall not be altered or amended, unless such alteration is proposed in writing at least one month previous to action being taken thereon ; but any of these By-laws may be suspended for one month at any regular meeting, provided, in both cases, that two-thirds of the members present shall vote in the affirmative.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Calling to order.
2. Testing the Tyler.
3. Passing the test.
4. Opening the Lodge.
5. Repeating the lecture.
6. Calling roll of officers.
7. Reading the minutes.
8. Receiving certificates.
9. Propositions for membership.
10. Report of Lodge Committee.
11. Balloting on applications for membership.
12. Initiation of candidates.
13. Reception of communications.
14. Reports of committees.
15. Reports of officers (quarterly or yearly).
16. Are there any bills of account requiring attention?
17. Are any of the brethren sick or in distress?
18. Has any brother violated his obligation or our laws?
19. Applications for degrees.
20. Unfinished business.
21. Has any brother anything to offer for the good of our Order? Public business connected with the principles, honor and prosperity of the institution, discussed.
22. Roll called.
23. Has any brother changed his place of residence; if so, please notify the Financial Secretary.
24. Election and installation of officers.
25. Receipts of the evening.
26. Repeating the lecture.
27. Closing the Lodge.

Nights of Meetings

IN ORANGE HALL.

L. O. L. No. 71, first Tuesday in every month.

“ “ **286, First Wednesday.**

“ “ 312, first Monday.

“ “ 554, second Monday.

“ “ 779, first Friday,

“ “ 1019 first Thursday.

District Orange Lodge, third Thursday.

Scarlet Chapter, opens 14th of every month and
remains open until 21st.

Degree Night, third Friday.

Black Preceptory, third Monday.

O. Y. B. No. 2, third Wednesday.

True Blues, No. 2, second and fourth Tuesday.

Y. M. P. B. A. No. 4, second and fourth
Wednesday.

*Standing Committee of L. O. L. No. 286,
meets second Monday in every month.*